D.C. APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE/Cloture (2nd Attempt)

SUBJECT: Conference report to accompany the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996 . . . H.R. 2546. Lott motion to close debate.

ACTION: CLOTURE MOTION REJECTED, 52-42

SYNOPSIS: The conference report to accompany H.R. 2546, the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996, will provide the District of Columbia (D.C.) Government with \$727 million in Federal funds (including retirement funds), and will approve the District's \$5.10 billion budget. The report includes additional funding (\$5 million for fiscal year (FY) 1996 and \$42 million over the next 5 years) for a low-income school-choice scholarship (voucher) program for elementary and secondary education students. A 7-member Board will be created to oversee the program. The Mayor of the District will select one member; the President will select 6 members, 2 of whom will have been recommended by the Senate Majority Leader, 2 of whom will have been recommended by the Speaker of the House, and 1 each of whom will have been recommended by the House Minority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader. Two types of scholarships will be given. Tuition scholarships will be given to students for them to attend the District schools of their choice, which may be religious schools. Enhanced achievement scholarships will be given to students to pay for after-school programs, including academic, vocational, and technical education programs, athletic programs, and music lessons. Students from families with incomes below the poverty line will be eligible to receive up to \$3,000 tuition scholarships and up to \$1,500 enhanced achievement scholarships. Students from families with incomes that do not exceed 185 percent of the poverty line will be eligible to receive up to \$1,500 tuition scholarships and up to \$750 achievement scholarships. The Board will submit an allocation plan to the District Government for distributing Federal funds between the two types of scholarships. No Federal funding for scholarships will be provided until the District Government approves an allocation plan.

On February 27, 1996, Senator Lott sent to the desk, for himself and others, a motion to close debate on the conference report. NOTE: A three-fifths majority (60) vote of the Senate is required to invoke cloture. This vote was the second attempt to invoke cloture (see vote No. 20).

For debate, see vote No. 20.

(See other side)

YEAS (52)			NAYS (42)			NOT VOTING (5)	
Republicans Democrats (48 or 98%) (4 or 9%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (41 or 91%)		Republicans (3)	Democrats (2)	
							Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Hatfield

VOTE NO. 21 FEBRUARY 29, 1996